

Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 SPM-01 EB-11 COME-00 OMB-01

TRSE-00 CIEP-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 AID-20 IGA-02 SWF-02 IO-14 (ISO) W

----- 005765

R 131504Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6192

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRAGUE 1014

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, BEXP, CZ

SUBJECT: GRAIN

AND PRECIPITATION CONDITIONS IN

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

REF: A) PRAGUE 859, B) STATE 96257 (NOTAL)

1. GRAIN AND GENERAL CROP CONDITIONS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA
HAVE IMPROVED CONSIDERABLY SINCE WE SENT PRAGUE 859 APRIL
24. CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN MONTH OF APRIL RECEIVED ONLY 41 PERCENT
OF AVERAGE 55 MM. PRECIPITATION FOR THAT MONTH, AND MINISTRY
OF AGRICULTURE OFFICIALS TOLD US THAT OFFICIALS HAD DECIDED
THAT UNLESS COUNTRY RECEIVED MINIMUM OF 50 MM. PRE-
CIPITATION DURING MAY, CROP SITUATION WOULD BE DISASTROUS.
FORTUNATELY FOR THEM, COUNTRY RECEIVED OVER-ALL AVERAGE
OF 33 MM. OF RAIN IN FIRST SEVEN DAYS OF MAY, AND THIS WAS
FOLLOWED BY SOAKING RAIN IN MUCH OF COUNTRY MAY 11-12.
EMBASSY OFFICER WHO TRAVELLED SOUTH FROM PRAGUE TO AUSTRIAN
BORDER MAY 10-12 FOUND GRAIN FIELDS IN GENERALLY GOOD
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CONDITION.

2. BESIDES WINTER AND SPRING DROUGHT, CROPS, ESPECIALLY FRUIT ORCHARDS AND SUGAR BEETS, ALSO SUFFERED FROM UNUSUAL COLD SPELL IN LATE APRIL. ALTHOUGH TEMPERATURES DID NOT DROP BELOW FREEZING IN PRAGUE, MINISTRY OFFICIAL TOLD US THAT LATE APRIL TEMPERATURE IN SOME SUGAR BEET AREAS IN NORTH BOHEMIA HAD FALLEN TO 11 BELOW ZERO CENTIGRADE. THIS WILL REQUIRE AT LEAST SOME REPLANTING, BUT APPARENTLY NOT OVER LARGE AREAS.

3. WE PROPOSE TO WAIT ON VISIT BY SVEC OF FAS (STATE 98389 NOTAL) TO APPROACH OFFICIALS FORMALLY RE CROP FORECASTS. WILL CABLE APPOINTMENTS AND HOTEL FOR SVEC LATER. SHERER

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 13 MAY 1974
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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